



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY**

626 8th Avenue, SE • P.O. Box 45502 • Olympia, Washington 98504-5502

February 15, 2018

Hugh Straley, MD  
Chair, Robert Bree Collaborative  
c/o Foundation for Health Care Quality  
705 Second Avenue, Suite 410  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Dr. Straley:

**SUBJECT: Hysterectomy Report and Recommendations**

Thank you for your correspondence of January 29. We have reviewed and accept the report and recommendations for hysterectomy. This is a very useful and timely evidence review and guideline given what we know of the burden of conditions treated as well as potential adverse effects, unexplained regional variation, and cost concerns. Pursuing and implementing up-to-date, evidence-informed guidelines promises to improve the health and health outcomes of women in Washington.

Health Care Authority (HCA) will work toward implementing these guidelines in the Apple Health and Uniform Medical Plan Plus programs and encourage use in other state programs. HCA will also focus efforts on identifying shared decision-aids appropriate for this topic and for certification by the authority.

Thank you and the Collaborative for continuing your outstanding efforts to improve the safe and effective purchasing and improvement of health care and overall health in Washington. Should you have questions or concerns, please contact Josh Morse, Health Services Section Manager, by phone at 360-725-0839 or via email at [Josh.Morse@hca.wa.gov](mailto:Josh.Morse@hca.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sue".

Susan E. Birch, MBA, BSN, RN  
Director

cc: Dr. Dan Lessler, Chief Medical Officer, CQCT, HCA  
Josh Morse, Health Services Section Manager, CQCT, HCA  
Rachel Quinn, Special Assistant for Health Care Policy and Programs, PD, HCA